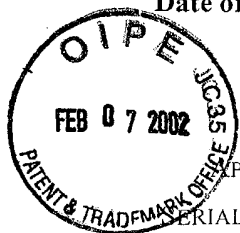


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Date of Deposit: February 7, 2002

PATENT APPLICATION

Atty Docket No. 15966-557 CIP (Cura-57 CIP)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : Jeffers *et al.*

SERIAL NUMBER : 09/609,543

EXAMINER : Christine Saoud

FILING DATE : July 3, 2000

ART UNIT : 1647

FOR : NOVEL FIBROBLAST GROWTH FACTOR AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING SAME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), applicants hereby petition for a one (1) month extension of time for replying to the December 7, 2001, Notice of Restriction Requirement. With the extension, the present papers are due on or before February 7, 2002.

A check is enclosed to cover the \$55.00 Petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(a)(1). The Examiner is authorized to charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, reference no.15966-557 CIP (CURA-57 CIP). A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 44,848

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529
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Dated: February 7, 2002

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